

**METHOD FOR IMPROVING OIL DESALTING
BY FORMING UNSTABLE WATER-IN-OIL EMULSIONS**

Abstract of the Disclosure

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A method for determination for a given oil the relative stability of a water-in-oil emulsion that will be formed by that oil with water comprises measuring for the given oil the weight fraction of the oil that is most strongly adsorbed on a silica gel column successively eluted with n-hexane, toluene and 10 methylene chloride - methanol mixture solvents and determining whether said weight fraction is greater than about 0.05; with a value above 0.05 being determinative of an emulsion more stable than one with a value less than 0.05.

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